

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in and light of the found discussed is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-25 are pending in the present application. Claim 3 has been canceled, claims 1, 4, 6 and 8 have been amended and claims 14-25 have been added by the present amendment.

In the last Office Action, claims 1-4, 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Doi et al.; and claims 5 and 8-13 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-4, 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Doi et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include subject matter similar to that as recited in dependent claim 3. In more detail, independent claim 1 now recites that the amplifying unit includes: a first differential amplifier including the inverting input terminal and the non-inverting input terminal of the amplifying unit and for differentially amplifying a signal inputted to the inverting input terminal and the non-inverting input terminal, a symmetrical amplifier for generating a signal symmetrical to the signal outputted from a non-inverting output terminal of the first differential amplifier and differentially amplifying the generated signal and the signal outputted from the non-inverting output terminal of the first differential amplifier, and an amplified signal output unit for differentially amplifying signals inputted from an inverting output terminal and a

non-inverting output terminal of the symmetrical amplifier and outputting the amplified signals to the output terminal of the amplifying unit.

These features are supported at least by Figure 1 of the present invention, which illustrates the first differential amplifier 110, the symmetrical amplifier 130 and the amplified signal output unit 140. Thus, because of the generated signal symmetrical to the signal output from the non-inverting output terminal of the first differential amplifier 110, the amplified signal output unit 140 can be balancelly driven, and thus a sufficient gain can be obtained while reducing the input offset voltage of the amplifier (see page 11, lines 9-16, for example).

Regarding the subject matter recited in dependent claim 3, the Office Action indicates Doi et al. teach the claimed symmetrical amplifier and cites elements 3 and 4 in Figure 1. However, it is respectfully noted the elements 3 and 4 in Figure 1 of Doi et al. are not symmetrical amplifiers, but rather are rail-to-rail amplifiers. Further, the amplifiers 3 and 4 in Doi et al. do not generate a signal symmetric to a signal outputted from a non-inverting output terminal of a differential amplifier as claimed by the present invention. Doi et al. also does not teach or suggest the claimed amplified signal output unit that reduces an input offset voltage as in the present invention.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claim 1 and each claim depending therefrom are allowable.

Further new claims 14-25 have been added to set forth the invention, and Applicant submits the new claims are supported by the original filed specification. In particular, new independent claim 14 includes some features similar to that as recited in

claims 1, 3 and 6. It is respectfully submitted new claims 14-25 are allowable for similar reasons as discussed above.

Further, the specification has been amended to correct minor informalities. No new matter has been added.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone David A. Bilodeau, Registration No. 42,325, at (703) 205-8072.

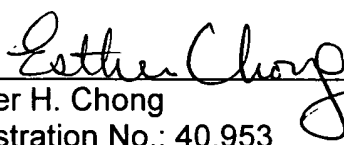
Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for

any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
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